

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4771

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1855

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG ILO

SUBJECT: ILO - APPOINTMENT OF AMERICAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL

1. BEFORE AND AFTER RECENT ELECTION OF NEW ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL, MISSION AND USDEL HAD DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH FRANCIA BLANCHARD RE THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMERICAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL.

2. BLANCHARD IS PERSUADED AND MISSION WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREES THAT MOST USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE SPOT FOR AN AMERICAN DDG WOULD BE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, PERSONNEL AND PUBLICATIONS MANAGEMENT OF ILO. THESE ARE AREAS FOR GREATEST POTENTIAL CONTROL OF ALL ILO OPERATIONS. BLANCHARD HAS COMMITTED HIMSELF TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY NECESSARY TO DO THE JOB TO HIGHLY QUALIFIED U.S. CANDIDATE. HE HAS EMPHASIZED DESIRE TO APPOINT QUALIFIED AMERICAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND HAS OFFERED TO TRAVEL TO THE US, IF NECESSARY, TO INTERVIEW PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES. HE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS TO CONSIDER. THE INCUMBENT OF THE POSITION, AS BLANCHARD ENVISAGES IT, SHOULD HAVE A CLOSE AND INTIMATE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DG WHICH MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WOULD WORK EASILY WITH BLANCHARD AND WHO WOULD HAVE HIS COMPLETE TRUST.

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3. AS RESULT THE INTENSE DISCUSSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD WITH

BLANCHARD ON THIS SUBJECT OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS A MOMENTUM FAVORABLE TO US INTERESTS HAS BEEN GENERATED WHICH SHOULD NOT BE LOST. BLANCHARD IS THE FIRST TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE CANNOT RUN THE ILO ALONE. WITH THE ANNOUNCED DEPARTURE OF DDG ABBAS AMMAR AT THE END OF MAY HE WILL LOSE HIS MOST CAPABLE DEPUTY. AS TIME SLIPS BY BLANCHARD WILL FEEL INCREASING PRESSURE TO FILL HIS TOP POSTS, BOTH BECAUSE HE NEEDS HELP AND BECAUSE OTHER ILO MEMBER STATES WILL BE COVETOUSLY EYEING THE VACANCIES. BLANCHARD WANTS AN AMERICAN DDG TO BE HIS KEY MANAGEMENT DEPUTY AND HE WANTS HIM SOON. BUT, HIS ABILITY TO HOLD THE JOB OPEN FOR US WILL BE SEVERELY STRAINED UNLESS WE CAN MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM BY PRODUCING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES AND PRODUCING THEM SOON.DALE

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